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Title: ADMINISTRATOR WHITMAN EXTENDS PUBLIC COMMENT
PERIOD ON LARGE ANIMAL FEEDING OPERATIONS

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EPA Administrator Christie Whitman today announced her intention to extend the public comment period for 75 additional days on a Jan. 12 proposal to reduce water pollution from large animal feedlot operations. The 75-day extended comment period will allow public comments through July 30.

EPA proposed new water pollution permitting controls in January that would apply to large concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs), typically defined as having 1,000 cattle or comparable "animal units" of other livestock. Throughout March, EPA held eight public meetings across the country to provide additional information and encourage public comment on the proposal. EPA is providing the additional public comment opportunity based on comments received at these meetings asking for more time to study and comment on the proposed Clean Water Act permitting requirements and CAFO definitions.

For additional information, reporters can call Robin Woods in the EPA Press Office at 202-564-7841.

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